

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL  
PANNIER MARKET REPORT MARCH/APRIL 2023  
DATE OF REPORT 03/04/2023**

**PANNIER MARKET**

**1. General Update**

- a) We are slightly amending the current Pannier Market Rules & Regulations to reflect operating trading schedules in 2023, a briefing note will be presented to members at the next Budget & Policy meeting in May for review/endorsement.
- b) Please note, the new licence rates will be applied as of the beginning of April, these increases apply across the Market & Events area, including Bedford Square and Market Hall hire, this is in addition to a slight increase in capacity levels.
- c) There have been very positive comments recently, in relation to the current aesthetic look of the market, from customers and also online reviews. We also now have in place our new banners, A-frames and opening times posters with the new branding, as mentioned in the previous round of reports.
- d) Easter Saturday sees our first themed day of the year, on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April we have a trader Easter Bonnet competition to be judged by our Mayor, we also have the Easter Bunny visiting and giving out free treats for children. We will then be looking towards the Summer for more large-scale event-based days.
- e) We are close to the completion of an agreement with Barclays Bank regarding their move to a larger pitch, they will be ready to move as soon as both parties have agreed arrangements, with the micro pod then being installed at the beginning of June. They have been a welcome addition to the Pannier Market and shows the diverse range on offer, we have also had HSBC Bank book a few pop up days that have proven popular.

**2. Bedford Square/Events**

- a) As from 1<sup>st</sup> April, the cost per marquee has now increased as has the whole and half Square hire, however the cost for electricity use will remain the same at £5 for single marquee use and £25 for half or full day hirers. This is only the second increase in many years and still stands at an extremely competitive rate for the facilities on offer.
- b) In general, bookings for the square for 2023 are looking positive, recent poor weather conditions have not helped the current volume of traders attending, but as we move towards the Spring we expect a steep upturn in attendees with a mixture of new bookings and regular pitches returning.

### **c) Farmers Dates 2023**

Saturday April 08<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday November 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>

### **3. TripAdvisor/Google Reviews 2022**

#### **Nice indoor market in a historical little town Feb 2023**

*If you park in the large car park beside the river you have a wonderful little walk to the town centre and the Pannier Market is just across the road. The market has quite a lot of interesting things to see both old and new. We bought some fudge and some baklava as well as a few old books and bit and pieces. Just outside the main building are places to eat and drink and we ordered some paninis and chips with hot drinks. The market is one of the more interesting things to see in the town.*

**Written 24 March 2023**

#### **Plenty for All Mar 2023 • Couples**

*We paid an overdue visit to the Pannier Market in Tavistock and a great selection of goods are available. Plenty of choice with something for all. Many independent stall holders who have made many of the available items. Lovely local eatery as well as well as spotlessly clean toilets. Well worth a visit in my view.*

**Written 3 March 2023**

#### **Rated 5 Stars 5 days ago NEW**

*I just loved it.*

*Great variety of goods for sale and stall members with a great sense of humour and very helpful in our selection of purchases.*

#### **Rated 5 Stars 3 days ago NEW**

*Lovely place local products for sale really interesting especially great if you are a visitor to the area well worth a visit*

### **4. Designated Premises Supervisor**

- a) The Town hall is now starting to witness more bar led functions than in recent years as it starts to rejuvenate after Covid, this includes a number of Private functions, with no issues pertaining to the sale of alcohol.

- b) This quarters Bar Audit Stock Report has just been undertaken, with details being submitted to members at the next Full Council Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023, first indication is that it was a positive outcome with minimal issues to report.

### **5. Tavistock Country Garden Show**

- a) The majority of the advertising has all been done for this year's Country show, and we will continue to promote leading up to the event, with posters, leaflet distribution and Social Media posts.
- b) The regular pitches in the main market hall are now all full as are the perimeter stalls, we have had a few of the show gardens unable to attend this year, however we do have a new one to replace one of them, and are now looking for one more to be at 100% occupancy on interior pitches, there is also a little more work to do on the food and entertainment area.

### **6. Coach Drivers Initiative**

- a) We have started to witness a few coaches now as we move into the Spring, with a few of them visiting Tavistock for the first time, which is positive sign that our advertising is being effective. Before the next leaflets go to print, myself and the BID Manager have agreed that Tavistock Museum be allocated a small advertising space within the leaflet, to encourage coach parties to visit.
- b) As we look to the future of coach travel, there is early indication that in the future at some point, we may be looking at coaches going electric, so consideration could be given to the opportunity for electric charge points in the existing coach parking spaces at Bedford Car Park.

Duane Carruthers  
Market Reeve & Designated Premises Supervisor  
Tavistock Town Council  
[duane.carruthers@tavistock.gov.uk](mailto:duane.carruthers@tavistock.gov.uk)